

The Number of Militia Called
into the Public Service
in 1813

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LETTERS

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR

TO THE

COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS,

IN

RELATION TO THE NUMBER OF MILITIA

CALLED INTO THE

PUBLIC SERVICE IN 1813,

TO

A provision for paying the bounties and premiums to soldiers lately authorized, and to the strength of the army.

MARCH 3, 1814.

Read, and ordered to be printed.

WASHINGTON :

A. AND G. WAY, PRINTERS.

.....
1814.

2-3-11-5

LETTERS.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

February 10, 1814.

SIR,

IN answer to your note of the 3d instant, I have the honor to state :

1st. That the aggregate strength of the army on the 17th day of January, 1814, was thirty-three thousand eight hundred and twenty-two.

This amount will necessarily be lessened by the expiration, within the year, of the terms of service of part of the troops. It will also be increased by recruits. What the average amount of this aggregate will be during the year (which I understand to be the question proposed) can but be conjectured. It is to be hoped that the new inducements to enlistment will complete the establishment by the 1st day of June.

2d. That the amount of regular troops in February, 1813, was eighteen thousand nine hundred and forty-five; in June twenty-seven thousand six hundred and nine; and in December thirty-four thousand three hundred and twenty-five.

3d. The average amount of volunteers, during the year 1813, was six thousand.

4th. The discretionary authority given to general officers commanding districts to call out militia, and that employed by governors of states, in cases of actual or of menaced invasion, make it impossible to offer a more accurate estimate of the militia in actual

service during the year 1813, than that reported, and herewith inclosed from the pay-master of the army.

With great respect,

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

*Hon. Mr. Eppes,
Chairman of the Committee of
Ways and Means, &c.*

The Pay-master of the army having had referred to him so much of the letter of the chairman of the committee of ways and means of the 3d instant, as relates to the number of militia who were in the actual service of the United States during the year 1813, has the honor to

REPORT:

THAT it is out of his power, from the documents in the office of the pay-master of the army, to answer that question with that degree of precision which it is desirable, because no actual returns of many of those militia have, as yet, been transmitted to the office; and that this information can only be obtained in the office by a resort to all the district and regimental pay-masters' accounts when they shall have been rendered and the payments completed.

Although the pay-master of the army cannot say with precision at this moment the actual number of the militia of the several states in the service of the United States, during the year 1813, yet, from the best information he can resort to at this moment, it will be safe to estimate the number in the service of the United States, during the year 1813, at thirty thousand men, including officers.

ARMY PAY-OFFICE,

City of Washington, February 9, 1814.

ROBERT BRENT,

Pay-master U. S. Army.

The Honorable

The Secretary of War, Washington.



WAR DEPARTMENT,

February 10, 1814.

SIR,

Agreeably to your request, that I would designate the several heads in the general estimate for the military service, for the present year, from which deductions may be made to provide for the additional bounties and premiums authorized by the act of January 27, 1814, I have the honor to state, that in the event of its being determined by the honorable committee of ways and means to provide for such appropriation in that

way, it will be most convenient to make the deductions as follows, viz:

From the quarter-master's depart-

ment,	\$ 500,000
ordnance department,	300,000
fortifications,	200,000
Indian department,	700,000
contingencies,	300,000

Amounting to \$ 2,000,000

Which, with the sum of five hundred and forty thousand dollars, included in the general estimate, on that account, will afford the necessary appropriation for bounties and premiums, two millions five hundred and forty thousand dollars.

With great respect,

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your most obed't. serv't.

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Honorable Mr. Eppes,

Chairman of the Committee

of Ways and Means.





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